



STATE/INR NMCC/MC (DIA) CIA/NMCC NIC NSA
NSC/S FBI

500 NIO CRS

● ROUTINE

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

~~SECRET~~

DIST 14 JUNE 1974

1.5 (c)

1. MORALE AMONG THE PRISONERS AT THE CHACABUCO PRISON CAMP NEAR ANTOFAGASTA IS FAIRLY GOOD. THE PRISONERS ARE GIVEN CONSIDERABLE FREEDOM OF ACTION AND ARE ALLOWED TO ELECT LEADERS TO DIRECT PRISONER ACTIVITIES. THEY ARE PERMITTED TO ENGAGE IN DISCUSSIONS AS LONG AS THEY ARE NONPOLITICAL. IN PRIVATE, POLITICAL DISCUSSION CONTINUES DESPITE THE BAN.

2. RELATIONS AMONG THE PRISONERS ARE GOOD. THE COMMUNISTS, HOWEVER, MAINTAIN THEIR OWN ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE CAMP AND KEEP

~~SECRET~~

(classification)

(dissem controls)

2828-276-3

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE JUN 11 1999

141
A349

~~SECRET~~

(classification)

(dissem controls)

THEMSELVES ISOLATED FROM THE REST OF THE PRISONERS.

3. THERE IS NO TORTURING OF PRISONERS IN CHACABUCO, ALTHOUGH SOME SUFFERED MALTREATMENT WHEN THEY FIRST ARRIVED THERE IN LATE 1973. THE PRISONERS HAVE A PACT TO COMMIT MASS SUICIDE BY RUNNING AGAINST THE ELECTRIFIED FENCE ENCLOSING THE CAMP AT THE FIRST SIGN OF TORTURE, AND THE CAMP OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN MADE AWARE OF THE PLAN.

4. SANITATION CONDITIONS ARE DEPLORABLE, AND THE PRISONERS RECEIVE ONLY ONE MEAL A DAY, CONSISTING MOSTLY OF BEANS. HOWEVER, THEY ARE ALLOWED TO RECEIVE FOOD PACKAGES FROM FAMILIES AND FRIENDS.

5. THERE HAVE BEEN NO KNOWN PLANS FOR ESCAPE HATCHED AMONG THE PRISONERS AND NO ARMS ARE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN SMUGGLED INTO CAMP. ONCE, A REVOLVER THAT WAS LOST BY A GUARD WAS RECOVERED BY A PRISONER. IT WAS IMMEDIATELY TURNED OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES SINCE ITS PRESENCE JEOPARDIZED EVERYONE. THE GUARDS ARE CHANGED EVERY TWO WEEKS AND THERE IS LITTLE CONTACT BETWEEN THEM AND THE PRISONERS.

6. THROUGHOUT THE PAST SIX OR EIGHT MONTHS THE CAMP HAS AVERAGED ABOUT 2,000 PERSONS WITH PRISONERS ARRIVING AND LEAVING IN A REGULAR FLOW. ~~COMMENT:~~

1.5 (c)

5
4
3
2
1

~~SECRET~~

(classification)

(dissem controls)

5
4
3
2
1

[REDACTED]

PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

SECRET [REDACTED]

(classification)

(dissem controls)

[REDACTED] THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PRISONERS IN CHACABUCO AS OF 30 APRIL WAS
1,600. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

1.5 (C)

5
4
3
2
1

SECRET

(classification)

(dissem controls)